Message Text

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TO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

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AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, US, EC
SUBJECT: PROPOSED REGULATIONS ON IMPORTS OF MILK AND MILK
PRODUCTS FROM FOOT-AND-MOUTH OR RINDERPEST INFECTED
COUNTRIES

1. ON MAY 31, 1974 THE DEPARTMENT RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING NOTE FROM THE COMMISSION'S DELEGATION IN WASHINGTON: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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QUOTE--THE DELEGATION OF THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, AND HAS THE HONOUR TO REFER TO ITS PROPOSED REGULATIONS FOR THE CONTROL OF IMPORTS INTO THE UNITED STATES OF MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS "ORIGINATING IN A COUNTRY IN WHICH FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE OR RINDERPEST EXISTS", AS PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER, VOL. 39, NO. 45 OF 6 MARCH 1974.

THE DELEGATION IS INSTRUCTED, IN THE LIGHT OF RECENT EXPERT DISCUSSIONS IN WASHINGTON, TO EXPRESS ONCE AGAIN THE CONCERN AROUSED IN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY BY THESE PROPOSALS, WHICH HAVE ALREADY BEEN THE OBJECT OF A NUMBER OF COMMUNICATIONS.

THE DELEGATION IS IN PARTICULAR INSTRUCTED TO DRAW THE ATTENTION OF THE AMERICAN AUTHORITIES TO THE TRADE OBSTACLES WHICH COULD RESULT FROM ADOPTION OF THE PROCE-

DURES CURRENTLY ENVISAGED, ESPECIALLY AS REGARDS MILK POWDER. IN THE ABSENCE OF INFORMATION ON THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH WAREHOUSES MAY BE APPROVED UNDER THESE REGULATIONS, AND ON THE NUMBER, STORAGE CAPACITY AND IMPLIED OPERATING COSTS OF SUCH ESTABLISHMENTS, THE COMMUNITY RESERVE THE RIGHT TO TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO SAFEGUARD THEIR COMMERCIAL INTERESTS.

MORE PARTICULARLY THE COMMUNITY BELIEVE THAT, APART FROM CERTAIN EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES CALLING FOR NECESSARY PROTECTIVE MEASURES, ITS GENERAL SITUATION AS FAR AS FOOTAND-MOUTH DISEASE IS CONCERNED IS NOT SUCH AS TO JUSTIFY THE RESTRICTIONS ENVISAGED. INDEED THE PROCESSING WHICH THE PRODUCTS INVOLVED HAVE UNDERGONE IS SUFFICIENT TO MEET ALL DESIRABLE SANITARY GUARANTEES. THE COMMUNITY HOLDS SUCH GUARANTEES INDISPENSABLE, IN ITS OWN INTEREST AS WELL AS IN THAT OF THE COUNTRIES TO WHICH IT EXPORTS.

THE COMMUNITY WOULD NEVERTHELESS BE PREPARED TO CONSIDER SUBMITTING ITS EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES COMING FROM REGIONS IN THE COMMUNITY TO WHICH THE PROPOSED AMERICAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LEGISLATION WOULD APPLY TO CERTAIN STOCKING AND PROCESSING REQUIREMENTS, NOTABLY HEAT TREATMENT. TO THIS EFFECT IT IS PREPARED TO ENTER INTO TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS AT EXPERT LEVEL WITH THE AMERICAN AUTHORITIES.

THE DELEGATION OF THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES TAKES THE OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE THE ASSURANCE OF ITS HIGHEST CONSIDERATION.--UNQUOTE

2. THE DEPARTMENT IS PASSING A COPY TO APHIS AND IS PRE-PARING AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT. FOR LONDON AND DUBLIN: THIS TELEGRAM IS REPEATED TO YOU AS HOST COUNTRIES ARE EC MEMBER STATES. HOWEVER, APHIS HAS IRELAND AND U.K. (EXCEPT FOR CHANNEL ISLANDS) ON FREE LIST. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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